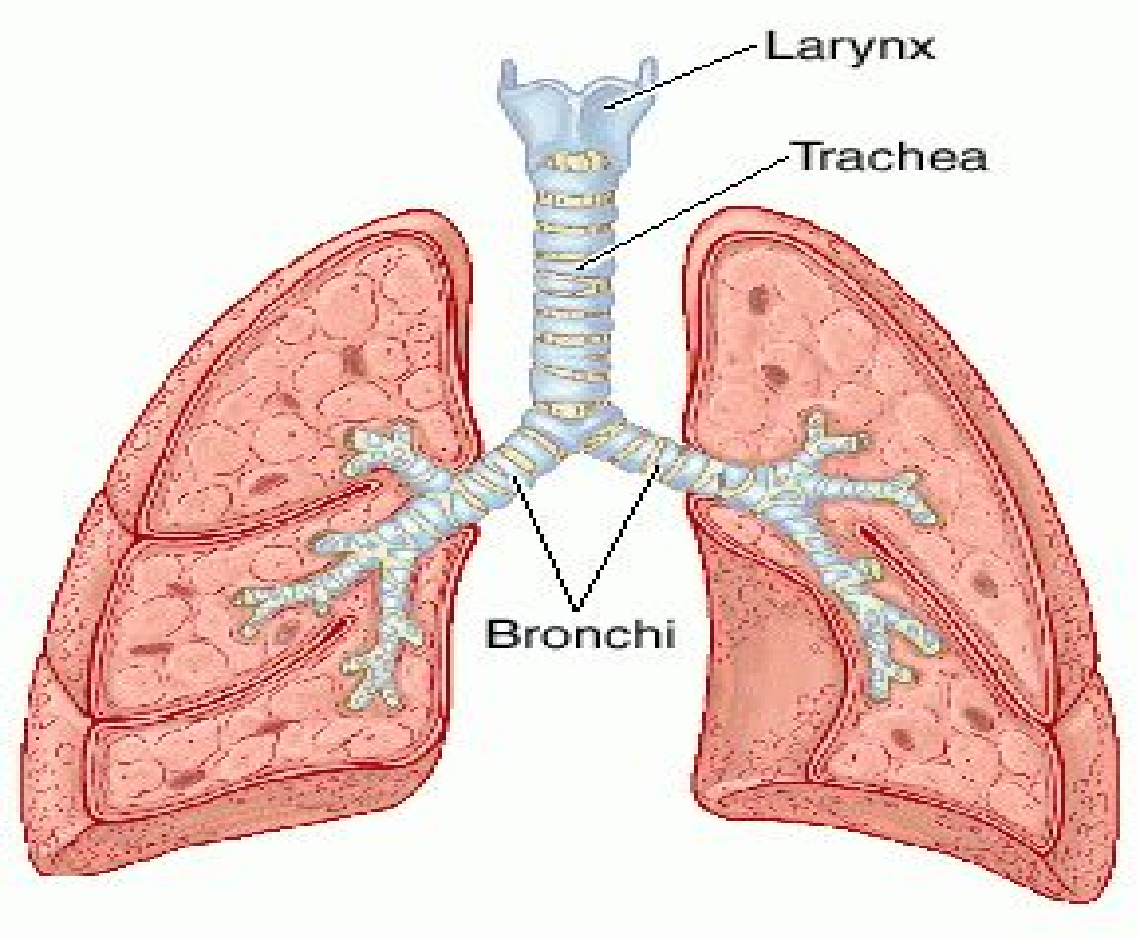
The Trachea:



Preferably alive- If it's dead, you're dead!

If you're looking for the one of the most dangerous missing organs (which you should be!), then you should be trying to spot these features: The human trachea weighs about 1 pound, has an inner diameter of about 1 inch, and is 4-6 inches long. It attaches/runs from the larynx to the bronchi, which lead to the bronchioles, and eventually the alvioli (lungs). It has about 20 rings of tough cartilage to support it, which are held together by smooth tissue called mucosa. The trachea widens and stretches out with each breath in, and returns to its original relaxed position with each breath out and between breaths.

The main functions of the trachea (some of these are more minor functions because the trachea really only has one *main* function) are: 1. (the main function) To allow air passage to your lungs. Air travels in through the mouth and nose, through the larynx, down the trachea, through the bronchi and bronchioles, and finally to the alvioli (lungs). 2. Keeping foreign objects out of your lungs. The inside of the trachea is coated with a sticky mucus that traps unwanted

intruders. These trapped particles can exit the body as phlegm or be swallowed. 3. Digestive/Respiratory Safety Mechanism. If either the trachea or the esophagus becomes blocked, the body will trigger a reflex that will make you start choke, expelling the foreign object from the blocked area. 4. Thermoregulation. If the air you breath is too warm, the trachea activates a system to promote loss of heat. Similarly, if the air you are breathing is too cold, the trachea can warm the air before it reaches the lungs, creating a thermo balance.

Some system categories the trachea falls under are the respiratory system, the excretory system, the digestive system, and the skeletal system. The trachea works with the excretory system by trapping foreign objects in the respiratory system and expelling them from the body. It works with the digestive system by clearing the esophagus when it is blocked with the choking/coughing reflexes. Lastly it works with the skeletal system because cartilage rings support the trachea.

Some diseases that affect the trachea are: Trachetitis (inflammation of the trachea), Tracheomalacia (weakening of the tracheal cartilage), and Tracheal Stenosis (narrowing or constriction of the trachea). A person couldn't live *completely without* their trachea. However, a few people have survived trachea transplants, and it is possible to have a tracheotomy, where a tube is inserted and a machine helps you breath.

The search for the trachea is high priority- it really is wanted alive! May this information help you, and good luck!

1) Description: size, weight, other important- The trachea (also known as the windpipe) the tube that is about 4-6 inches long, and has an inner diameter of about 1 inch. It runs from the larynx to the bronchi. It is made up of about 20 incomplete rings of cartilage, and smooth tissue called mucosa. The trachea widens and stretches out with each breath in, and returns to its original relaxed position with each breath out and in between breaths.
2) The main functions of the trachea (some of these are minor functions, because the trachea really only has one *main* function) are: 1. (the main function) To allow air passage to your lungs. Air travels in through the mouth and nose, down the trachea, through the bronchi, the bronchioles, and finally to the alvioli. 2. Keeping foreign objects out of your lungs. The inside of the trachea is covered with a sticky layer of mucus, which will trap any unwanted visitors. These trapped particles can exit the body as phlegm or be swallowed. 3. Digestive/Respiratory Safety Mechanism. The trachea is connected to the

tube that enables you to swallow. When either of these systems are blocked, you start to choke. Choking and the coughing reflex get the foreign object out of the body. 4. Thermoregulation. If there is an increased temperature of the air, the body activates a system to enable reduced heat. If the air you are breathing is too cold, your trachea can warm the air before it reaches the lungs, creating a thermo balance.

3) The systems that contain my organ are: The respiratory system (passage of air), the digestive system (connected to swallowing system, choking reflex), the excretory system (exhales carbon dioxide “used air”, gets rid of foreign bodies), and the skeletal system (made up of cartilage rings).
4) The trachea works with the digestive system to make sure the tubing systems don’t get blocked (when blocked starts choking). It works with the skeletal system (supported by cartilage rings), and the Excretory system (gets rid of foreign bodies in tubing system).
5) Some diseases that affect the trachea are: 1. Tracheitis (inflammation of the trachea). 2. Tracheomalacia (weakening of the tracheal cartilage). 3. Tracheal Stenosis (narrowing or constriction of the trachea).
6) A person could not live completely without the trachea, because without it, the would be no passage for air between the larynx and the bronchi (air couldn’t reach your lungs). However, a few people have lived with trachea transplants, and it is possible to have a tracheatomy, where a tube is inserted and a machine helps you breathe.

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